

Minutes of the Pastoral Parish Council Meeting of St Cuthbert and the First Martyrs of Rome

held on Monday, September 8th 2016 at First Martyrs Church Hall.

Meeting commenced at 7.30 pm

Present: Anne Balson (AB)-Chair, Eileen Boyle (EB), Yvonne Coppin (YC), Pat Featherstone (PF), Liz Firth (LF), Mary Gilmartin (MG), Gregory Knowles (GK), Philip Walsh (PW), and Jo Geoghegan (JG)-Secretary.

1 Welcome and Opening Prayer

AB welcomed everybody to the meeting and asked Fr. Gregory to lead us in an opening prayer.

2 Apologies for Absence

Mick Moriarty (MM), Christine Walker (CW), James Wierzbicki (JW), Hermie Davy-given later.

3 Minutes of meeting May 17th 2016

These were accepted as a true record, proposed MG, seconded by EB

4 Matters Arising

None raised.

5 Vision of the parish for the coming year

GK outlined an oversight of what makes a healthy parish.

- The importance of *quality* worship, prayer and spirituality-on the whole there is plenty of good practice manifested in the parish
- Promotion of what it means to lead a *Christian life*-homily and parishioners way of life
- Outreach-does the parish *reach out* beyond its own boundaries
- Healthy Social Life-this can take place formally and informally and is shown in *relationships* with individuals, family, each other and total strangers.
- Good Communication within the parish: it is very important to continue and pursue an ongoing effort to recruit others to volunteer for the many opportunities within the parish community.

6 Reports

Finance-PW

There was nothing to report at this stage other than what was reported at the Open Meeting in July. Income is being maintained even though attendance numbers at Mass have dropped.

Property-GK

GK & Benedict Hanney have carried out Heath a Safety and Safety inspection and the issues highlighted have been sent to the Diocese for consideration.

An attempted 'land-grab' by felling a swathe of trees at the rear of the woods at FM has been addressed with the involvement of the Diocese and Bradford Council. The boundary is going to be clearly marked.

The problem of the wasp nest at St Cuthbert's has been addressed.

A question was asked about the plans for the hedge in the front garden of First Martyrs' Presbytery; there is further work to be done.

The matter of the state of decoration of the staircase from FM church down to the Church Hall which was brought up at the Open Meeting in July; GK reported that a greater priority was to provide a fire door to the staircase and the decoration would have to wait.

There are some broken windows at St C; one has been replaced but the stained glass one at the rear of the church has not been repaired.

Youth-LF

Troops are meeting again after the summer break. There is a good senior section as more guides have joined. There will be 2 Messy Church sessions before Christmas, an advent party for children, Harvest Festival, Parade Day and an Outreach weekend.

Social No report as MM absent.

Action

Parish

SVP-PW

September is SVP awareness month when the group try to 'advertise ourselves'. Speakers will make an address at Masses during the weekend of 24/25th September. The parish continues to give generous financial support but as ever there is need for recruitment of volunteers especially from younger people.

UCM-MG

4 members are working well together. They attended the quarterly meeting in Cottingley. There will be a study day at St Benedict's, Leeds on 15th October. The group have addressed issues of safeguarding and health and safety. The annual Rosary Rally will take place in Leeds on 22nd October. There will be a sale of Christmas Cards for the Sylvia Wright Trust and a Christmas New-to-You stall at the beginning of December for the Diocesan Mission to Peru. It would be good to have more members

Hospitality

After Mass coffee is doing well.

Children's' Liturgy

There will be no rota but members of the group have volunteered for specific dates. There have been some new volunteers recruited which is good. Training can be given by the Diocese; this could take place on a Deanery basis.

Justice & Peace (report from David Somerville)

The group continues to be active: prayer and medication, Messy Church, Food Bank, priorities for asylum seekers and refugees, toilet twinning-donations for WC use to fund facilities overseas. Report about the meeting with John Anderson: issues identified in personal, Church and political 'greening'.

GK attended a Churches Together meeting with other ministers and representatives.

Proposed: 1. Joint Advent Service @ FM 6th December, 2. Palm Sunday activity @ FM, 3. Good Friday. Details to be worked out.

Flower Team

The small team is active as ever with flowers for celebrations and the coming celebrations for the 125th Anniversary of St Cuthbert's Church this weekend.

7 Social Calendar-MM

Discussion deferred to next meeting.

Events coming up include: St Cuthbert's Celebrations 10/11th September, Harvest Festival 9th October, St Cuthbert's Players 30th November-1st December, Burns Night in January,

8 Cleaning and Church Door Duties-PW

There is a need for more volunteers to help with the cleaning of FM church. It was agreed to make this a priority for recruitment on 18th September.

More volunteers are required to cover both doors at FM masses and for people to act as 'Greeters' to welcome people to Mass. Families could sign up for this, thus involving young people as well.

The need for more people to help with running the parish has become an issue in many Areas of parish life. GK would appeal at masses to encourage volunteers. 18th September designated as 'recruitment weekend'.

9 November Fayre-EB

Date set for 20th November after the 10.30 Mass at FM. The stalls will be set up on 19th November from 10am.

10 Hearing Loop

Some people find that it doesn't work very well. It was thought that it worked better in different parts of the church! A parishioner has offered to finance the project. It was decide to have it tested to see if there is need for maintenance or replacement.

11 Date & place of next meeting

Wednesday January 11th 2017 at 5.00pm.

The meeting ended at 8.50pm.

Action

SVP

J & P
Group
GK

All

AB